

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**METHOD, SYSTEM, AND PROGRAM FOR MAINTAINING AND SWAPPING
PATHS IN AN MPIO ENVIRONMENT**

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A path control module manages a set of primary paths and a set of standby paths for a target device. When a path in the set of primary paths fails, the path control module may failover to the set of standby paths.

- 10 Alternatively, when a path in the set of primary paths fails, the path control module may failover that path to a single path from the set of standby paths. The sets of primary paths and standby paths may be set by an administrator to control load balancing of resources in
- 15 the storage area network. The primary set of paths for a first disk may be the standby set of paths for a second disk. Similarly, the primary set of paths for the second disk may be the standby set of paths for the first disk.